

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2102

December 16, 2010

28 DEC 2010 RCVD

The Honorable Julius Genachowski
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Room 8B201
Washington, DC 20554

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Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I understand that you are in the final steps of completing your review of the Comcast-NBC Universal merger. I understand that review will reach resolution soon. I know that you have diligently examined and are addressing the concerns about the merger which I raised at the hearing we held earlier this year.

In the time since that hearing, I have reviewed the concerns other legislators, consumer advocates, and competing firms have expressed. I know you have as well and are giving them serious consideration. I am writing now to just reinforce the need for this merger to work for consumers, and enhance innovation and competition. I believe it can, but we count on you to ensure that it does.

As you know, Comcast is widely respected as an employer in my state, an innovator in the market, and an active corporate citizen. And it has made meaningful commitments to support the production of local news, public affairs and other public interest content going forward. But the proposed merger will create a unique company, with unique power in the market.

It is important that consumer access to video content on the Internet continue to grow and flourish, including content that the new merged firm will control. I want to make sure competition between video distributors will drive down prices for consumers and that the market will welcome and encourage the development of independent voices. I do not think anyone wants this new entity to act unfairly as a bottleneck or gatekeeper for critical programming for competing distributors or leverage its distribution network against content that competes with its new property. If you approve this merger, these are benchmarks against which it will be judged in the years to come.

I have great confidence in your capacity as regulators and in the expertise of your agency staff. Where you determine these risks pose a threat to the goals I have listed, we believe you have the authority to propose remedies. I also trust that Comcast is open to ensuring that the public can trust an approved merger is in their interest and will accept and accommodate such remedies.

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I appreciate your time and consideration and look forward to working with you on this and other matters in the year to come.

Sincerely,



John F. Kerry

cc: The Honorable Christine Varney, Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

March 17, 2011

The Honorable John F. Kerry
Chairman
Subcommittee on Communications, Technology
and the Internet
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
United States Senate
218 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Kerry:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Commission's review of the proposed joint venture between Comcast Corporation and the General Electric Company subsidiary, NBC Universal, Inc. After a thorough, fair and timely review of the extensive record in the proceeding, the Commission adopted a *Memorandum Opinion and Order* on January 18, 2011, approving the transaction with merger-specific conditions. I am pleased to say that we completed our review expeditiously, particularly given the size and complexity of the transaction. The result was a transaction that the Commission found to be in the public interest.

I appreciate your interest in this important matter. I am enclosing a copy of the Commission's release summarizing the Commission's action. Commission staff will be happy to work with your office if you have any additional questions. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I may be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. Genachowski", is written over the typed name. The signature is fluid and stylized, with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

Julius Genachowski

Enclosure